

NEW NAMES AND COMBINATIONS, PRINCIPALLY IN THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN

FLORA--VI

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In order to validate a few names of taxa planned for inclusion in *Colorado Flora: Western Slope*, the following new combinations are necessary.

Maianthemum amplexicaule (Nuttall) W. A. Weber, comb. nov.
Smilacina amplexicaulis Nuttall, J. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila. 7:58. 1834.

Nuttallia cronquistii (Thompson & Prigge) W. A. Weber, comb. nov.
Mentzelia cronquistii Thompson & Prigge, Great Basin Nat. 46:550. 1986.

Veronicastrum serpyllifolium (L.) Fourr., Ann. Soc. Linn. Lyon, n.s. 17:128. 1869, ssp. *humifusum* (Dicks.) W. A. Weber, comb. nov., based on *Veronica humifusa* Dicks. in Trans. Linn. Soc. 2:288. 1794; *V. serpyllifolia* L. ssp. *humifusa* (Dicks.) Syme in Sowerby, Engl. Bot., ed. 3, 6:158. 1866. The generic name *Veronicastrum* was typified by Fourreau (1869, l.c.). This name was incorrectly identified by Moench with the American-Eurasiatic group including *Leptandra virginica* (L.) Nutt. (1818).

Vexibia nuttalliana (B. L. Turner) W. A. Weber, comb. nov.
Sophora nuttalliana Turner, Field & Lab. 24:15. 1956. *S. sericea* Nutt. (1818), non Andrews (1806); *Vexibia sericea* Raf. (1825).

Sophora nuttalliana has always been anomalous in this genus of essentially dry-tropical trees and shrubs. Recently, in processing a large collection of vascular plants from the Caucasus and Central Asia I found that *Goebelia pachycarpa* (Schrenk) Bunge from Ashabad is extremely similar to our species. Referring to the new two-volume work, *Advances in Legume Systematics*, edited by Polhill & Raven (1981), there is ample justification to segregate this group from *Sophora*. The disjunct distribution pattern, representing an ancient Tertiary connection, between Central Asia and southwestern North America, is repeated in such genera as *Platanus*, *Styrax*, *Cercis*, *Laurocerasus*, and *Amygdalus*.

Nuttall himself described *Sophora* as "a small and widely dispersed but scarcely natural genus" even as he added his *Sophora sericea* to it. He also commented on the "striking affinity of this plant" to the Caucasian *S. alopecuroides*, which he had seen in the Banksian Herbarium. *Goebelia* Bunge ex Boiss., Fl. Orient. 2:628. 1872, however, is not the earliest name available for the segregate.

Rafinesque also realized the anomalous position of *S. sericea* and proposed for it *Patrinia* (a later homonym), later replacing that name with *Vexibia*, the name now available. The typification of *Sophora* is controversial. Britton & Brown typified it by *S. alopecuroides* while A. S. Hitchcock chose *S. tomentosa*. The problem of Linnean typification and the American Code will be taken up by the next Botanical Congress. It would be unfortunate if the name *Sophora* were to be restricted to this small segment of a much larger genus, necessitating many name changes.

The following new combinations are necessary to bring the group on both continents into harmony:

Vexibia alopecuroides (L.) W. A. Weber, comb. nov. *Sophora alopecuroides* L., Sp. Pl. 373. 1753.

Vexibia pachycarpa (C. A. Mey.) W. A. Weber, comb. nov. *Sophora pachycarpa* C. A. Mey., Index Sem. Hort. Petrop. 9:89. 1843.

Vexibia prodanii (E. Anderson) W. A. Weber, comb. nov. *Sophora prodanii* E. Anderson, J. Arn. Arb. 16:76. 1935.

Vexibia stenophylla (A. Gray in Ives) W. A. Weber, comb. nov. *Sophora stenophylla* A. Gray in Ives, Rep. Colo. River, Bot. 10. 1860 [1861].

The name *Sophora carnososa* (Pursh) Yakovlev, based on *Astragalus carnosus* Pursh, is superfluous, since *A. carnosus* was based partly on *Astragalus crassicaarpus* and partly on *Sophora sericea* Nutt.